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Patent Claims

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1. A method for transmitting data, particularly having multimedia contents, from a first communications unit (10; 110) to a second communications unit (40; 114) in a telecommunications network (10, 20, 30, 40; 110, 112, 114), whereby at least one transmission status message (M-Delivery.ind) assigned to the data is transmitted to the first communications unit (10; 110), whereby in the event of the non-deliverability of the data to the second communications unit (40; 114), an item of information concerning the non-deliverability of the sent data is provided in the transmission status message (M-Delivery.ind),

characterized by the fact that non-deliverability of the data sent applies if the correct receipt of the data sent or of a recipient notification message (M-Notification.ind) concerning the data to be transmitted to the second communications unit (40; 114) is not acknowledged by the second communications unit (40; 114) by means of a respective associated confirmation message (M-NotifyResp.ind, M-Acknowledge.ind).

2. A method as claimed in Claim 1,

characterized by the fact that the item of information concerning the non-deliverability of the sent data is provided in the transmission status message (M-Delivery.ind) if the data cannot be delivered to the second communications unit (40; 114) within a definable period of validity.

3. A method as claimed in Claim 1 or 2,
characterized by the fact
that non-deliverability of the data sent applies if the correct
receipt of the data sent and of a recipient notification message (M-
Notification.ind) concerning the data to be transmitted to the
second communications unit (40; 114) is not acknowledged by the
second communications unit (40; 114) by means of a respective
associated confirmation message (M-NotifyResp.ind, M-
Acknowledge.ind).

4. A method as claimed in one of Claims 1 to 3,
characterized by the fact
that the telecommunications network (10, 20, 30, 40; 110, 112, 114)
comprises a switching arrangement (20, 30; 112) by way of which the
data is transmitted from the first communications unit (10, 110) to
the second (40, 114), whereby the switching arrangement (20, 30,
112) establishes the non-deliverability of the data sent and sends
the transmission status message (M-Delivery.ind) to the first
communications unit (10, 110).

5. A method as claimed in Claim 1 or 4,
characterized by the fact
that the data is transmitted by means of the "Multimedia Messaging
Service" (MMS) by using the "Wireless Application Protocol" (WAP).

6. A method as claimed in Claim 5,
characterized by the fact
that the recipient notification message (M-notification.ind)
comprises an MMS message in the category "X-Mms-Message-Type: m-
notification.ind".

7. A method as claimed in Claim 5 or 6,
characterized by the fact
that the data is transmitted to the recipient by means of at least
one MMS message in the category "X-Mms-Message-Type: m-retrieve-
conf".

8. A method as claimed in one of Claims 5 to 7,
characterized by the fact
that the transmission status message (M-Delivery.ind) comprises an
MMS message in the category "X-Mms-Message-Type: m-delivery-ind".

9. A method as claimed in Claim 8,
characterized by the fact
that the item of information concerning the non-deliverability of
the data sent is represented by the value "<Octet 133>" in the data
field "X-Mms-Status" of the transmission status message (M-
delivery.ind).

10. A method as claimed in one of Claims 1 to 9,
characterized by the fact
that the first telecommunications unit (10; 110) and/or the second
(40; 114) comprises a mobile communication module.

11. A method as claimed in one of Claims 1 to 10,
characterized by the fact
that the telecommunications network (10, 20, 30, 40; 110, 112, 114)
is realized as a mobile communication network at least in areas and
the first communications unit (10; 110) and/or the second (40; 114)
operate(s) as defined by the GSM, GPRS, EDGE and/or UMTS standards.

12. A switching arrangement (20, 30; 112) for transmitting data in a
telecommunications network (10, 20, 30, 40; 110, 112, 114),

particularly according to a method defined by one of the foregoing claims, from a first communications unit (10; 110) to a second communications unit (40; 114), whereby the switching arrangement (20, 30; 112) comprises an apparatus for producing a transmission status message which is assigned to the data to be transmitted to the second communications unit (40; 114), whereby the apparatus for producing the transmission status message provides an item of information concerning the non-deliverability of the data to be transmitted in the transmission status message (M-Delivery.ind) if the data cannot be delivered to the second communications unit (40; 114),

characterized by the fact that with regard to the apparatus for producing the transmission status message, non-deliverability of the data sent applies if the correct receipt of the data sent or of a recipient notification message (M-Notification.ind) concerning the data to be transmitted to the second communications unit (40; 114) is not acknowledged by the second communications unit (40; 114) by means of a respective associated confirmation message (M-NotifyResp.ind, M-Acknowledge.ind).

13. A switching arrangement as claimed in Claim 12, characterized by the fact that the apparatus for producing the transmission status message provides the item of information concerning the non-deliverability of the data to be transmitted in the transmission status message (M-Delivery.ind) if the data cannot be delivered to the second communications unit (40; 114) within a definable period of validity.

14. A switching arrangement as claimed in Claim 12 or 13, characterized by the fact that with regard to the apparatus for producing the transmission status message, non-deliverability of the data sent applies if the correct receipt of the data sent and of a recipient notification message (M-Notification.ind) concerning the data to be transmitted to the second communications unit (40; 114) is not acknowledged by the second communications unit (40; 114) by means of a respective associated confirmation message (M-NotifyResp.ind, M-Acknowledge.ind).

15. A switching arrangement as claimed in one of Claims 12 to 14, characterized by the fact that the switching arrangement (20, 30; 112) comprises an apparatus for transmitting the transmission status message to the first communications unit (10; 110).